

transfer the catafalque to the Supreme Court for a funeral service.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1565. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend through December 31, 1997, the period during which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is authorized to provide priority health care to certain veterans exposed to agent orange, ionizing radiation, or environmental hazards.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of section 9355(a) of title 10, United States Code, the Speaker announces the appointment as members of the Board of Visitors to the U.S. Air Force Academy the following Members on the part of the House: Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. DICKS, and Mr. TANNER.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1565. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend through December 31, 1997, the period during which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is authorized to provide priority health care to certain veterans exposed to agent orange, ionizing radiation, or environmental hazards; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following report of committee was submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Rules and Administration:

Special Report entitled "Review of Legislative Activity During the 103D Congress" (Rept. No. 104-100).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. D'AMATO, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

Deborah Dudley Branson, of Texas, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 1996.

Charles L. Marinaccio, of the District of Columbia, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 1996.

Steve M. Hays, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Institute of Building Sciences for a term expiring September 7, 1997.

Martin Neil Bailey, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Tony Scallon, of Minnesota, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank for a term of three years.

Sheila Anne Smith, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Consumer Cooperative Bank for a term of three years.

Marianne C. Spraggins, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 1997.

Albert James Dwoskin, of Virginia, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protec-

tion Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 1998.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

By Mr. PACKWOOD, from the Committee on Finance:

Ira S. Shapiro, of Maryland, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Senior Counsel and Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative:

(The above nomination was reported with the recommendation that he be confirmed, subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CHAFEE:

S. 975. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel JAJ0, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. NICKLES:

S. 976. A bill to transfer management of the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma to the State of Oklahoma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 977. A bill to correct certain references in the Bankruptcy Code; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. DODD):

S. 978. A bill to facilitate contributions to charitable organizations by codifying certain exemptions from the Federal securities laws, to clarify the inapplicability of antitrust laws to charitable gift annuities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. INOUE, Mr. GLENN, Mr. PACKWOOD, Mr. DODD, and Mr. SPENCER):

S. 979. A bill to protect women's reproductive health and constitutional right to choice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 980. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and the Social Security Act to protect and improve the availability, quality and affordability of health care in rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. EXON:

S. 981. A bill entitled "Truck Safety and Congressional Partnership Act"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. NICKLES:

S. 976. A bill to transfer management of the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma to the State of Oklahoma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

THE TISHOMINGO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ACT

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I take the floor today to introduce a bill which will turn the management responsibilities of the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. This legislation responds to unacceptable policies promulgated by the Fish and Wildlife Service in their management of national wildlife refuges.

During the past several years, the Fish and Wildlife Service has attempted to restrict public access and traditional activities on our wildlife refuge preserves. Long-allowed public uses on refuges such as wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, hiking, grazing, and boating, have come under close scrutiny and curtailment. These short-sighted restrictions proposed by the administration's political appointees have resulted in unnecessary burdens and pressures on the public who use and benefit from our wildlife refuges.

What the Fish and Wildlife Service fails to realize is that the taxpayers own and finance the refuge lands. Outdoor recreation contributes significantly to local economies and local support for the refuges. Allowing traditional activities, such as fishing and boating at Tishomingo, is integral in maintaining continued public support and funding for the refuge system.

Due to ill-advised changes in Federal management practices during the last 10 years, wildlife populations on the Tishomingo refuge have severely declined. The State of Oklahoma, however, presently provides suitable habitats for wildlife resources across the State and currently manages 650,000 acres of Federal land. State officials have assured me that they will improve habitat conditions for wildlife at the refuge and work to reverse the negative impact of inadequate Federal management.

My legislation will ensure limited Federal funding for the Tishomingo Refuge and will ultimately result in significant savings to the Federal Government. The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation can manage the refuge more efficiently and with fewer taxpayer dollars. Specifically, my bill stipulates annual funding be made available to the State in the amount of 50 percent of the refuge's current operating costs.

In conclusion, I believe the State of Oklahoma can manage the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in an efficient and cost-effective manner and do so with fewer employees than the Federal Government. Local management will result in better communication between the managers of the refuge and